

STATEMENT II

The various causes for delay in the completion of projects, identified by the DPI, as a result of monitoring and analysis of the reports received from project authorities, can be summed up as follows:

- I. Delay in land acquisition.
- II. Delay in obtaining forest/environment clearance and lack of supporting infrastructure facilities.
- III. Delay in tie up of adequate funds and sources of funds (Budgetary internal resources, extra budgetary and external aid).
- IV. Delay in finalisation of detailed engineering, release of drawings and delay in availability of fronts.
- V. Changes in scope.
- VI. Delay in tendering, ordering and equipment supply.
- VII. Industrial relations and law and order problems.
- VIII. Delay and uncertainty in feed stock supply.
- IX. Pre-commissioning teething troubles.
- X. Technology problems.
- XI. Geological surprises.

The following are major causes of Cost escalation:

- I. Changes in rates of foreign exchange and statutory duties.
- II. Higher cost of environmental safeguards and rehabilitation measures.
- III. Higher cost of land acquisition.
- IV. Change in the scope of project.
- V. Higher prices being quoted by the bidders in certain areas.
- VI. Under estimation of original cost and
- VII. General price rise.

Single Child Family

208. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote the concept of a single child family to be launched on the 50th year of independence; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The Department of Family Welfare is promoting the concept of a single child family, purely on voluntary basis.

Indo-Pak Foreign Secretary Level Talks

209. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI G.L. KANAUIA :
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign-Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan were held in September and October, 1997 in New Delhi and Edinburgh respectively;

(b) if so, the details of the issues raised and resolved at each of these talks;

(c) whether the issues of unprovoked firing by Pakistan Security Forces on innocent civilians in Jammu and Kashmir dominated the talks;

(d) if so, the steps taken by both the Indian Government to raise this issue at International Fora and demand compensation from Pakistan;

(e) the steps taken by both the Government to resolve all outstanding issues including the Kashmir issue; and

(f) the venue and date of next round of Foreign Secretary level talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (f) The third round of the resumed Foreign Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan was held in New Delhi from 15-18 September, 1997. This round was adjourned, with the two sides deciding to reconvene at mutually convenient dates. The Foreign Secretaries of the two countries also met, pursuant to the directions of the two Prime Ministers in Edinburgh on 25 October, 1997 during the Commonwealth Head of Governments Meeting.

After their meeting in Islamabad in June 1997, the Foreign Secretaries had identified eight subjects, viz